



Public Works
Transportation Services

AUGUST 2007

NE 85 Street Rechannelization



"Safely and efficiently connecting the community."

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS SEPTEMBER 4

Work begins after Labor Day to convert NE 85 Street between 154 and 164 Avenue NE from four lanes to three. The new configuration will provide one travel lane in each direction, a dedicated center left turn lane, bike lanes on both sides of the street, and areas of on-street parking.

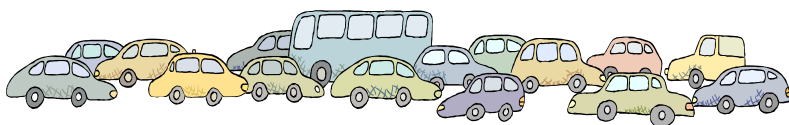
The NE 85 Street four to three lane conversion will also achieve the following:

- New landscaping at the NE 85 Street bridge.
- Provide approximately 50 on-street parking spaces and several loading zones in the vicinity of the residential buildings.

- A right-turn lane at 164 Avenue NE for eastbound traffic.
- Improve traffic flow near the post office with construction of a right turn/holding lane.
- Maintain or improve emergency response time along with transit operations and traffic flow.
- New pavement overlay from 154 to 158 Avenue NE.

NE 85 Street will be the second City corridor to be reduced from four lanes to three. In the spring of 2004, 166 Avenue NE from Redmond Way to NE 85 Street was the first corridor to be converted.

TRAFFIC DURING CONSTRUCTION



Drivers are advised to watch for lane shifts and daytime detours starting early in September and continuing through mid-October. Local access to area businesses will be provided at all times.

CONSTRUCTION ON-GOING IN OTHER AREAS OF THE DOWNTOWN

On August 28, NE 83 Street between 161 and 164 Avenue NE will be closed to through traffic for approximately six weeks while construction for the Downtown Transit Center continues.

THE POST OFFICE

Cars going to the drive-up drop boxes account for nearly half of the traffic at the post office. To help reduce the congestion, post office staff recently installed new mailboxes in the Bella Bottega area (NE 90 Street at the intersections of 160 and 161 Avenue NE), at QFC, and at Bartell Drugs. Other drop boxes are located at City Hall, the Redmond Senior Center (drive-up), and at the Redmond Center QFC.

Please help reduce traffic congestion at the post office site by using these alternate facilities.



How Can 3 Lanes Be Better Than 4?

It doesn't seem possible that reducing a road from four lanes to three can improve traffic flow. But, roadway conversions are happening all over the country with great success.

Here are some advantages:



Roadway conversions are happening all over the country with great success.

- One lane in each direction reduces the number of potential conflict points for turning vehicles and substantially improves sight distance.
- Center left-turn lanes remove left-turning vehicles from the flow of traffic, eliminating the need for other drivers to wait behind them.
- Traffic signals can operate more efficiently when concurrent left turns are provided.
- It is easier for pedestrians to cross three lanes instead of four.
- Bike and parking lanes create separation for pedestrians from the flow of traffic.
- Bike lanes provide cyclists with their own path of travel.
- On-street parking and loading zones serve businesses without blocking traffic.
- Vehicular speeds are reduced.
- Accident rates decline.

**For more information
on the project to convert
NE 85 Street
from 4 lanes to 3
please contact
the City of Redmond's
Transportation Services
Division at
425.556.2854 or
pwtrans@redmond.gov**

For plan details, visit our web site at:

www.redmond.gov/connectingredmond/projects/lanes.asp

Why Convert NE 85 Street?

The Redmond community endorsed reclaiming streets in the downtown as part of the City's Transportation Master Plan public process. Communities that want to offer more viable choices in transportation and improve the quality of life for transportation system users

have been reducing the number of roadway lanes since the concept was first introduced in the 1980s.

The NE 85 Street four to three lane conversion is consistent with the vision of Redmond's Transportation Master Plan to make the City's downtown a people place and provide more choices in mobility.

City of Redmond
NE 85 Street Rechannelization



Contractor:

Dennis R. Craig Construction

Project Schedule:

August to October 2007

Project Cost: \$530,000

Funding Sources:

Redmond Business Tax
Capital Improvement Program